

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ initiates electronic payment of invoices

BATON ROUGE – Effective today, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will accept echecks or credit cards for payment of invoices billed to the regulated community.

Those needing to pay their invoices may now initiate payment by accessing the web link at: http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/epay and entering their payment information. Under this administration, the electronic payment method has been carefully planned and tested with input from all stakeholders.

The system accepts payment by e-check as well as from Master Card, Discover and American Express. When paying by credit card, a 2.25-percent service charge will be added to the total payment. E-checks will include a flat \$1.95 service charge added to the total payment. These additional service charges are fees charged by the vendor providing this service.

"With the availability of the e-pay system, invoices can be paid in an expeditious fashion, without the hassle of mailing or delivering a check," said DEQ Undersecretary Vince Sagnibene. "This will allow both industry and the DEQ to utilize resources in other areas, while providing a convenient payment option. This tool is designed to further the department's goals for efficiency, customer service and use of the best available technology."

The payment option requires full payment of the balance due, plus any applicable late fee that is due.

For questions or comments about the system, please email <u>DEQ-Invoice@la.gov</u> or call (225) 219-3863.

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